Supporting guidance for choosing your courses and developing your study plan

This note is intended to support your decision making when choosing your courses and developing your study plan. The information is not legally binding and is subject to change. The legally binding information is provided in the current German versions of the 'Prüfungsordnung' and the 'Studienordnung'. These documents, as well as the non-binding translated English versions (study regulations; examination regulations), can be found at:

https://www.tu-chemnitz.de/wirtschaft/studium/master/be/regulations.html

1. General structure and principles of the program. You must take a total of 120 credits to graduate from the program. Normally, this means that 30 credits are taken in each of the 4 semesters. You can deviate from this but should remain mindful of the workload balance in each semester.

   40 credits are associated with modules that you are required to take (core modules, thesis modules).

   Most modules are worth 5 credits. The most notable exceptions are the (required) thesis (25 credits) the internship modules (10 or 20 credits depending on the length of the internship) a module on game theory (10 credits) and a module on mathematical methods (10 credits).

   The program is comprised of 5 types of modules which are set out in points 2-6 in the following.

2. You are required to take the two **core modules** (Basismodule) for a total of 10 credits.

   - Innovation Economics (5 credits) – to be taken in Semester 1 (Winter Semester)
   - Sustainability Management (5 credits) – to be taken in Semester 2 (Summer Semester)

   These core modules not only ensure coverage of the focal areas of innovation and sustainability but also create the opportunity for all participants in the program to get to know each other and develop as a cohort.

   Furthermore, you may be required to take the adaptation module 'International Strategy' (5 credits). This is the case if you have not taken a course or courses offering an introduction to strategic analysis and strategy development (e.g. in the form of courses in Strategic Management and/or International Strategy in your undergraduate studies).

3. You are also required to complete the following **thesis modules** for a total of 30 credits:

   - The thesis (a module worth 25 credits) and the associated
   - 'Colloquium' (5 credits).

   These modules are normally taken in the 4^{th} semester of the program.

4. You <u>can</u> take up to 15 credits from the set of '**adaptation modules**' (Anpassungsmodule). These modules allow you to close knowledge and competency gaps that you may need to address before choosing specific specialization modules. As these modules provide an additional opportunity to develop foundational knowledge, some courses taught in German can be taken here.

   You are encouraged to consider carefully if it may be beneficial for you to take an adaptation module in preparation for your further studies.

   In principle you are <u>not required</u> to take any adaptation modules but note that, as explained above in section 2, <u>you may need</u> to take 'International Strategy'.

> Example1:
>
> You feel you need to strengthen your knowledge and competencies in computational work. You therefore choose the adaptation module 'Computational Economics I '.
>
> Example 2:
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> You feel that it would be helpful for you to improve your English language skills. You therefore choose the 'Academic Skills' module in Semester 1 and Business English 4 in Semester 2.

5. **Supplementary modules** are offered to provide breadth to the program. Between 5 and 20 credits <u>can</u> be taken from these modules (note the <u>minimum of 5 credits that must</u> be taken).

   The <u>combined credits of supplementary and the adaptation modules</u> described above should sum up to a total of <u>20 credits</u>. Supplementary modules include the following types:

   - Study abroad modules
   - Internships
   - Language modules
   - Modules focused on supplementary skills (Business English, Academic Skills, Multimedia Skills, Project Management Skills)

   Please note that internships are not marked and <u>do not</u> contribute to the final mark of the degree. They <u>do</u>, however, <u>provide credits</u> towards the completion of the degree. Your overall mark will therefore be determined by the remaining courses you have taken (without the internship).

6. Central to the program are the '**specialization modules**'. In principle you can choose freely from these modules to create your personal study plan (but please note the limitations and aspects to consider outlined below).

   The specialization modules can be grouped into the following 4 specialization areas (as is done in the online link supporting the development of your 'personal study plan'):

- Strategy, Leadership & Economics
- Sustainability, Innovation & Marketing
- Finance, Taxation and Controlling
- Empirical and Applied Economics

IF you wish one (or a maximum of two) of the specialization areas to be indicated on your degree certificate you need to earn 30 credits from courses associated with the respective specialization area (please see 6.3).

If you do not wish to have a specialization area to be indicated in your degree certificate you are not bound by the above requirements and can choose freely from among the available courses.

Please note that some modules are associated with multiple areas. For example:

- Advanced Macroeconomics (Strategy, Leadership and Economics; Empirical and Applied Economics)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Strategy, Leadership and Economics; Empirical and Applied Economics)
- Empirical Economics 1 and 2 (Sustainability, Innovation & Marketing; Empirical and Applied Economics)
- Market Research (Sustainability, Innovation & Marketing; Empirical and Applied Economics)
- Valuation (Strategy, Leadership and Economics; Finance, Taxation and Controlling)

You can only use a particular module to satisfy the credit requirements for <u>one</u> specialization area. For example, Advanced Macroeconomics can only be used to satisfy the 30-credit requirement for either Strategy, Leadership and Economics <u>or</u> Empirical and Applied Economics, not both.

6.1 In principle you can choose freely from the specialization modules but please keep in mind the following:

- You are encouraged to consider the prerequisites associated with the individual modules and to be mindful of the best sequencing of courses, e.g. where relevant and possible it is advised to take more foundational courses before more advanced.

- Given the significant choice offered in the program it is not possible to timetable all courses in such a way that there is no timetable overlap. In cases where there is a timetable overlap you must decide which module is a priority for you and choose an alternative for the other module. In the case of not being able to take a particular module in the first semester, you may be able to take this module in the third semester.

- Please note that some courses only admit a limited number of participants - especially seminars. In this case, participants are usually admitted based on enrollment on the course page on OPAL on a first come, first serve basis. Opal enrolment usually takes place early at the beginning of the semester.

If this period is missed, then the course lecturer needs to be contacted individually when seeking registration later in the semester.

6.2 The following additional rules must be noted:

- Only <u>one</u> of the following modules can be taken:
  - Understanding Organizations: Theories and Applications
  - Organization and Strategy in the Global Context

- Only <u>one</u> of the following modules can be taken (these are seminars):
  - Organization and Strategy Research
  - Current Issues in Organization and Strategy in the Global Context
  - HRM-Research
  - New Concepts of Leadership

If you take HRM-Research or New Concepts of Leadership, you must have taken foundational courses in HRM and/or leadership during your undergraduate studies. If you take Organization and Strategy Research or Current Issues in Organization and Strategy in the Global Context you must have taken Understanding Organization or Organization and Strategy in the Global Context respectively.

6.3. As already indicated, you generally can choose freely amongst the available specialization modules (with the above noted provisos). If you wish to have one or two of the specialization areas to be indicated on your degree certificate you must ensure that you can offer a minimum of 30 credit points from modules associated with the respective specialization areas. Individual modules can only be counted for one specialization area. You therefore should think and plan carefully at the beginning of the program to ensure you can attain the required number of credits in the fields or courses you would like to take, particularly IF you intend to have two specialization areas indicated on your degree certificate.

Example:

Your aim is to have the specialization areas Sustainability, Innovation and Marketing as well as Empirical and Applied Economics indicated on your degree certificate.

You have taken the following courses from the list of specialization modules (just for illustrative purposes the 'fictional' semesters the modules were taken are indicated as well, in this illustrative case the student joined the program in a Winter Semester):

Market Research (taken in the student's first semester)
Consumer Behavior (taken in the student's second semester)
Supply Chain Management (taken in the student's second semester)
Economics of Climate Change and Sustainable Finance (taken in the student's second semester)
Resource Efficiency from an Economic Perspective (taken in the student's third semester)
Life Cycle Orientated Management (taken in the student's third semester)

Computational Economics II (taken in the student's first semester)
Advanced Macroeconomics (taken in the student's first semester)
Advanced Microeconomics (taken in the students' second semester)
Seminar Microeconomics (taken in the student's second semester)
Advanced Microeconomics (taken in the student's second semester)
Valuation (taken in the student's third semester)

In this case you can only have one of the two desired specialization areas indicated on your degree certificate. Market Research and Consumer Behavior can be assigned to either of the two areas. If you choose to assign them both to Sustainability, Innovation and Marketing then you can have that specialization area indicated on the certificate. If you choose to assign one of them to Empirical and Applied Economics then you can have that specialization area indicated on the certificate.

If you had not chosen Valuation (which is not associated with either of the two specialization areas in this example) but had instead taken Empirical Economics I, for example, then you would have been able to associate sufficient credits with each of the two specialization areas to have both noted on your degree

6.4. It is strongly recommended that you take at least one seminar as part of the specialization or supplementary modules before starting your Master thesis. At the time of writing possible seminars are:

- Applied Energy and Climate Finance
- Advanced Digital Finance
- Seminar Microeconomics (offered on various topics, depending on the semester)
- Seminar Macroeconomics (offered on various topics, depending on the semester)
- Seminar General Economics (offered on various topics, depending on the semester)
- Introduction to International Tax Management
- Seminar Sustainability, Innovation & Marketing (offered on various topics, depending on the semester)
- Current Issues in Organization and Strategy in the Global Context
- HRM-Research
- New Concepts of Leadership
- Organization and Strategy Research

- Selbstständiges wissenschaftliches Arbeiten und Präsentieren (Supplementary Module, given in German)
- Academic Writing and Speaking (module name: English in Studien- und Fachkommunikation V (Niveau C1))

Please note that some seminars do not follow a regular weekly or fortnightly schedule and are offered in a block format. If you are unsure about scheduling, please consult with the professorship offering the respective seminar.

In that context, keep track of appointments, assignments, prepatory work and submission deadlines for ‚homework' in seminars, as these do often not happen on a weekly basis and often have an irregular schedule that is nonetheless binding.

7. Important organizational matters to keep in mind

- Course registration is not automatic and has to be done via OPAL for each course you wish to take in each term.

- Course enrollment in OPAL does not imply exam registration (especially not for lectures). You must sign up for exams separately in the SBService of the University within the registration period.

- If you have questions about specific courses, you need to contact the lecturer delivering the course. If in doubt you can contact the office of the relevant Professorship.